



Summary of Programs

Subsidized Childcare

What is it?

Assistance in paying for child care to eligible families.

Who is eligible?

Families who:

- Include children under 13 (or 16 for a child with special needs)
- Demonstrated a childcare need (employed, looking for work, or attending an educational program)
- Meet income guidelines

Other eligibility issues:

- MA residency
- No citizenship requirement
- No verification required until placement is available

Process

- Once the Common Application is submitted, the applicant will be denied or placed on the waiting list. Waitlisted applicants will be contacted by the appropriate child care resource and referral agency (CCRR).
- The applicant does not have to produce verifications until placement is available.
- The length of the waitlist period varies according by the community, the age of the child, and funds available.
- Applicants will be contacted by the CCRR every six months to maintain their place on the waitlist.



Summary of Programs

WIC

What is it?

WIC is a nutrition program that provides nutrition and health education, healthy food and other services free of charge to MA families who qualify.

Who is eligible?

- Woman who are pregnant or have given birth within the past 6 months
- Women who are breastfeeding a child 12 months old or younger
- Infants and children through the age of 5

Other eligibility issues:

- MA residency
- Income requirements.
 - WIC takes into account household income, but not assets or living expenses
 - Child support payments are counted as income
- No citizenship requirement
- Applicants do not need a social security number

Process:

- Once the Common Application is submitted, a local WIC provider will contact the applicant to set up an appointment.
- Or, the applicant may contact a WIC provider by calling the 800 number provided.
- The applicants meet with the WIC provider. If she qualifies and has the necessary documents, she will be enrolled immediately.
- She will be given checks for specific foods, which she can redeem at participating stores. The foods include milk, eggs, cereal, fruit juice, cheese, infant formula, peanut butter, tuna, carrots, and dried beans/peas.
- Every six months, she will need to be recertified (meet with provider with necessary documents)



Summary of Programs

Women's Health Network

What is it?

A program providing free breast and cervical cancer screening, diagnostic services, and health education to low income, uninsured women. At some of the locations, women ages 40 to 64 can also receive free blood pressure, cholesterol, and diabetes. All enrolled women will receive free case management services including referral to free or low-cost treatment if needed.

Who is eligible?

- Low income women between the ages of 40 and 64 who have no other insurance that covers these services (including MassHealth)
- Women between the ages of 18 and 39 who
 - have a personal or family history of breast or ovarian cancer or
 - have received therapeutic radiation to the chest or
 - have been referred by a doctor to rule out cancer or
 - have not had a pap smear in the last 5 years
- Women over age 64 who
 - Are ineligible for Medicare
 - Are not enrolled in Medicare Part B

Other eligibility issues:

- MA residency
- Income requirements 250% of less of the federal poverty level
- No citizenship requirement

Process:

- Print out confirmation of Common Application and next steps for applicant.
- The applicant should call the WHN toll free number 1-877-414-4447 (TTY 617-624-5992). This line accommodates Portuguese and Spanish speakers. She will be referred to an enrollment site.
- The enrollment site will verify eligibility and arrange for services.

Questions:

Providers call 1-877-414-4477



Summary of Programs

Food Stamps

What is it?

Money for the purchase of food in the form of an EBT card

Who is eligible?

- Low-income residents of MA

Other eligibility issues:

- Income and asset requirements
- Citizenship requirements are complex; some non-citizens are eligible
- Social security number is required
- Some applicants may be subject to a work or education/training requirement

Process:

- Once the Common Application is submitted, the local DTA office will send out a letter and attempt to contact the applicant by phone to schedule an appointment.
- In most cases, appointment can be over the phone. During appointment, the caseworker and applicant will review the application and requirements in detail.
- Beacon (DTA's system) will generate letters and a list of verifications necessary, which will be mailed to the applicant.
- When DTA receives the signed papers and copies of verifications, this information is entered into Beacon, which verifies the social security number, makes a determination of eligibility and amount within a few days.
- An EBT and pin will be mailed separately to the recipient. This should occur within 30 days of application submission.

Food Stamps Work and Education/Training programs

- Food stamp recipients who have no minor dependents or disabilities may need to participate in a work/training program or perform community service in order to receive benefits.
- If required to work, recipients must work 33 months within a 36 month period.

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Summary of Programs

Expedited Food Stamps is a program that will deliver benefits within 7 days

- Eligibility
 - If the household income and money in the bank is less than rent + utilities
 - If the household income is less than \$150 and money in the bank is less than \$100
 - If anyone in the household is a migrant worker with money in the bank less than \$100
- Process
 - If applicant meets any of the above criteria, the application will be flagged.
 - DTA will phone immediately
 - Applicant must come into DTA to go over the application, sign forms, and verify identification.
 - Application will be submitted to Beacon immediately; Beacon will expedite determination and mail out EBT.